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STAR

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CPYRGHT

Difficult to Judge

Because of the complete secrecy of operations of the Central Intelligence Agency, it is not possible to judge accurately the work of Allen W. Dulles as director of CIA since 1953. Mistakes charged to the CIA are well publicized, but its accomplishments are not brought to light.

Dulles, who is 68, retired after the CIA had come under heavy fire in Congress for its part in the Cuban invasion fiasco last April. It was easy for the Democrats to single him out for the scapegoat role in that misadventure, but President Kennedy forthrightly sought to nullify that by assuming the blame himself. The President, however, directed Gen. Maxwell Taylor to make a study of the government's intelligence apparatus. That appraisal has not been made public.

There is no question that Dulles's accomplishments in the intelligence field were many. He had an important part in preventing Communist takeover of Guatemala and Iran. As director of the government's intelligence arm, he performed notable services in other areas of the world. His work with the Office of Strategic Services, a highly secret intelligence organization, during World War II, brought him a number of decorations.

Whether John A. McCone, named by President Kennedy to succeed Dulles, can restore full confidence in the

CIA and keep it operating smoothly and effectively remains to be seen. McCone is moving into an even more difficult job than the one he has had as chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.